

GC-873 Amperex – Mercury Thyatron



Nothing found on this tube. The only information available are those printed on the base, 'Amperex GC-873' and 'Aug. - 1941'. Found a couple in US, in Grantville, Pa.

The look resembles the one of the [C-100A](#), with a single metal mesh around about two thirds of the body. The out mesh is connected to pin 3 of the UX bayonet base. A spiral filament is barely visible above the bottom shielding plate. The plate on top is connected to the top cap. Mercury droplets are visible inside the glass envelope.

Probably an experimental mercury-filled thyatron controlled by electrostatic fields generated by the external grid. The operating principle could be similar to that of the arc flash lamps. Probably similar as per operation to 873 mercury thyatron triode.

A sample of C-100A, top, compared with the CG-873.

